



Section 1: Fiction (Unseen Passage)

Reading (10)

Q.1.a. Read the extract *The Lantern's Glow* and answer the questions given below:

1. Which genre of fiction do you think the story belongs to? Tick the correct option. **(1)**

Mystery

Adventure

Crime Fiction

Fantasy

2. ***The room was filled with remnants of a bygone era: an old grandfather clock, portraits of unknown faces, and a grand piano with a layer of dust that had not been disturbed in years.*** Pick out a structural feature from the above sentence and state its effect. **(2)**

Structure: _____

Effect: _____

3. Read the first paragraph of the extract. Explain how language is used to describe the settings. Pick out evidence from the text to support your answer. **(2)**

4. Pick out a word from third paragraph which means 'noticeable'. **(1)**

5. How does the presence of the lantern and the photograph help readers understand the figure's intentions or emotional state? **(1)**

6. Join the following sentences making it a complex sentence. (1)

He was bored with his life. He decided to join Relic in her search.

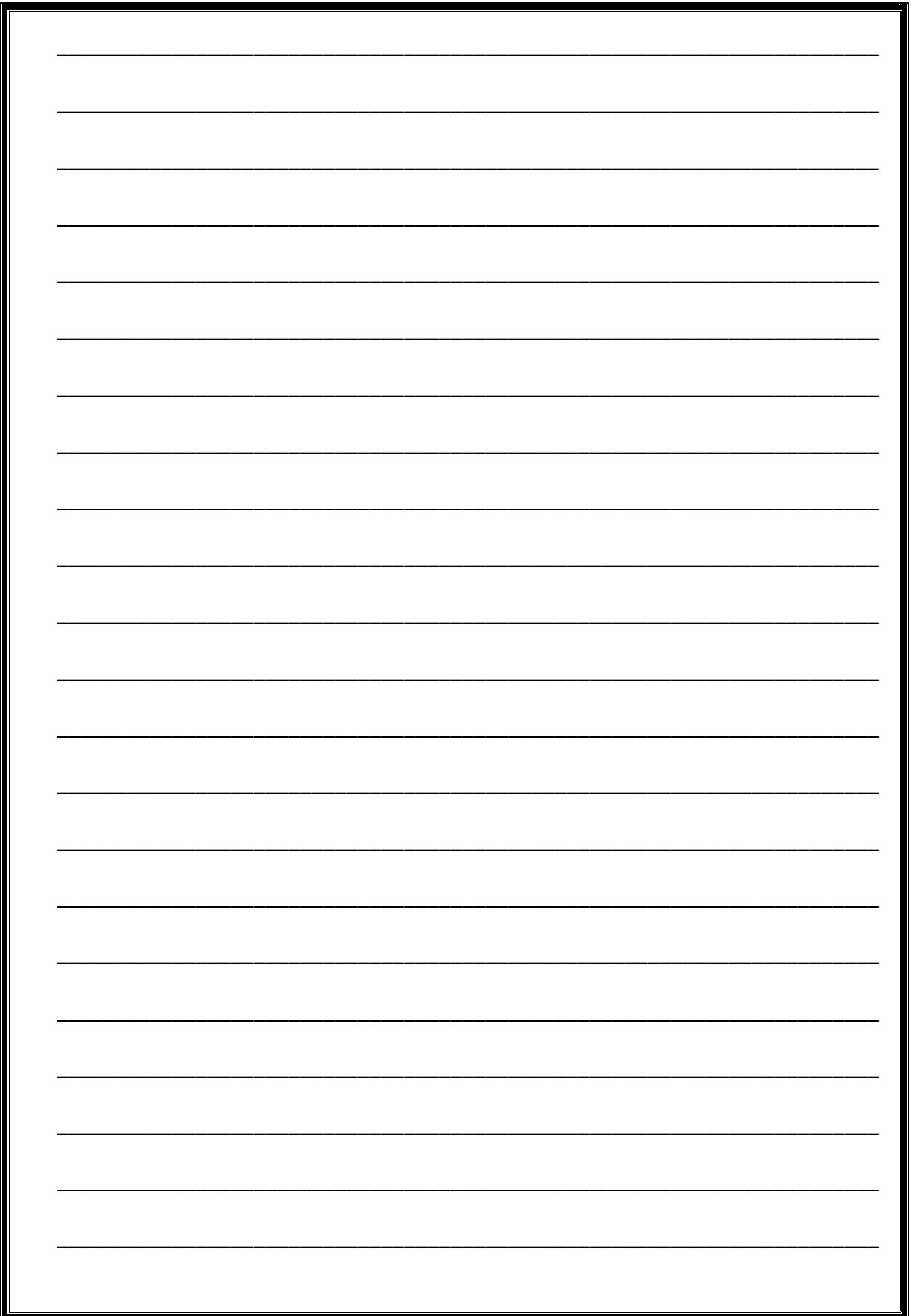
7. Summarize the extract into 50 words in your own words. (2)

Writing (8)

Q.1.b. Plan and write a piece of travel writing of an unusual place in 200 words. Consider the following points:

- a. Use descriptive language.
- b. Share your personal experience or reflection about the place
- c. Can add personal anecdotes travel tips.
- d. Use emotional tone.
- e. Conclude it with a reflective ending

Plan



Section 2: Non-Fiction (Seen Passage)

Reading (10)

Q.2. a. Read the homepage of an online bookstore (extract 2) and answer the following questions:

1. Pick out any two conventions of detective stories mentioned in the extract. **(2)**

2. What is the purpose of the extract? And who is the intended audience? **(1)**

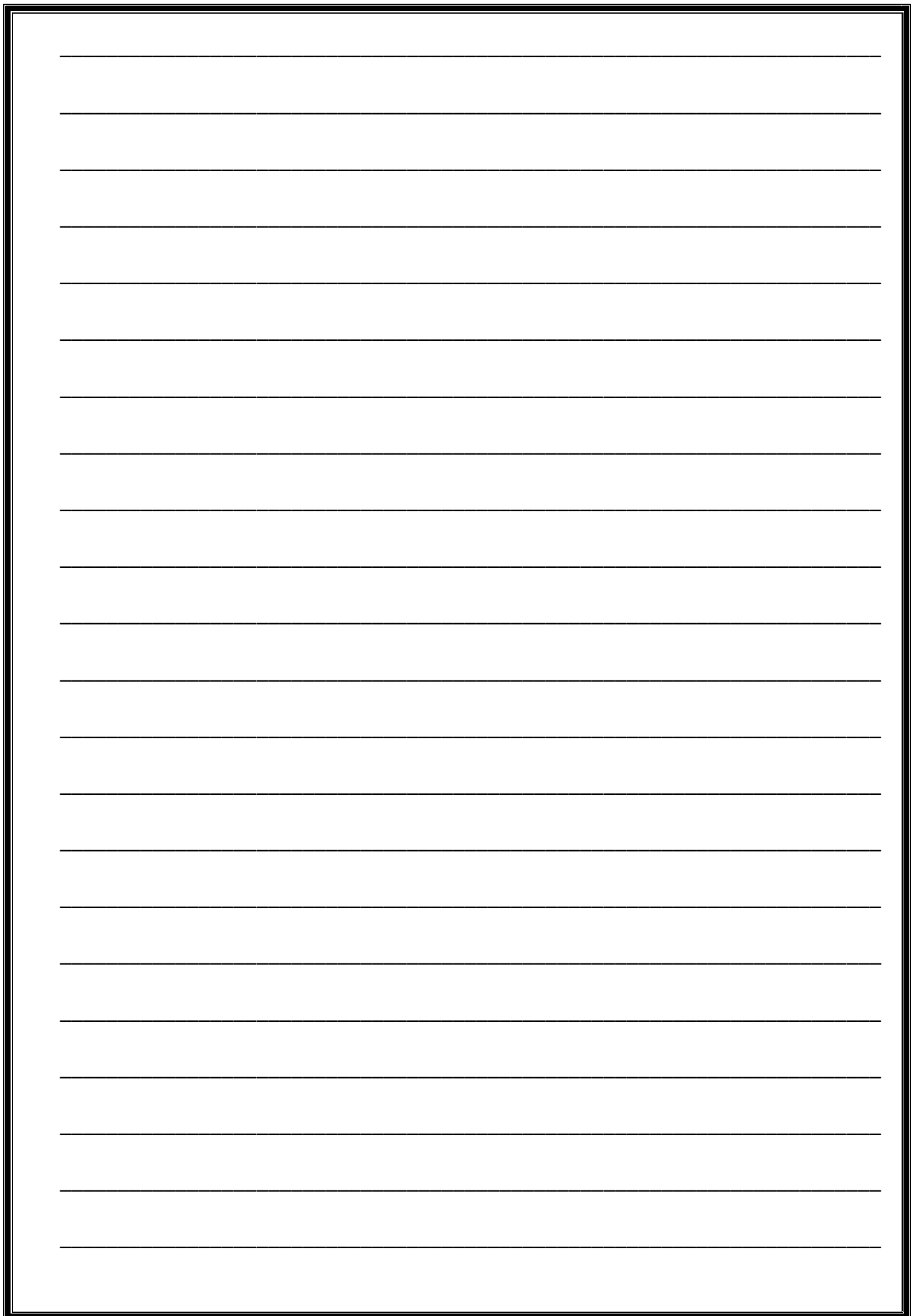
3. Do you think the text is balanced or biased? Why? **(2)**

4. Explain the effect of language choices used in the overall text. Provide evidence to support your choice. **(2)**

5. Complete the table. **(2)**

Register used in the extract	
Tone of the writer	

6. Pick out an example of compound-complex sentence from the extract. **(1)**



Extract (Grade 8)

Q.1.a.

The Lantern's Glow

The small town of Ravensbrook was veiled in a perpetual mist, with the ancient forest bordering its outskirts casting long, eerie shadows over the cobblestone streets. On an unusually foggy evening, a lone figure emerged from the thick fog and made their way towards the old Harper Mansion, a derelict building that had stood silent for decades. The mansion, with its broken windows and ivy-clad walls, had always been a source of local legends and whispers.

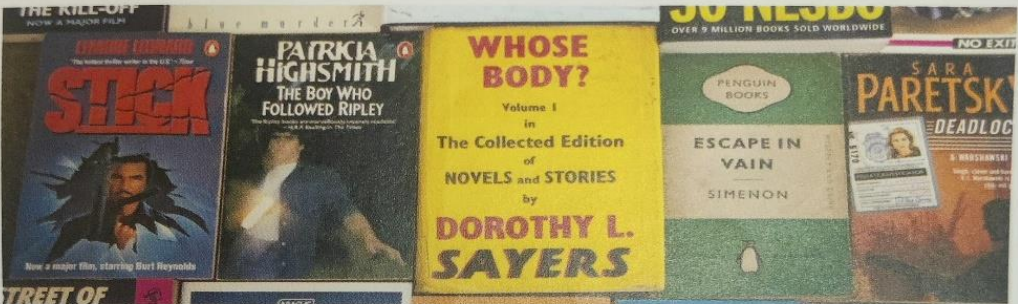
As the figure approached, the mansion's dimly lit interior revealed a flicker of light. The light, coming from a single lantern placed on a dusty wooden table inside, seemed to beckon the visitor. Inside, the air was thick with dust and secrets. The figure paused at the threshold; their face obscured by the brim of a wide hat. They took a deep breath, their gloved hand tightening around the lantern's handle before stepping inside.

The room was filled with remnants of a bygone era: an old grandfather clock, portraits of unknown faces, and a grand piano with a layer of dust that had not been disturbed in years. The figure approached the table and, with deliberate care, lifted a faded photograph from beneath the lantern. The photograph, though nearly illegible, depicted a family portrait, and a name — "The Ravens" — was barely discernible in the corner.

As the figure studied the photograph, their expression remained hidden, but a subtle tremor in their hands hinted at an emotional connection to the image. The air of anticipation and mystery hung heavy in the room, as if the mansion itself were waiting for something to be uncovered.

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THE THRILL OF THE DARK



Detective fiction is the most satisfying genre of them all – it's also the most popular! After all, nothing beats reading about dark **deeds** and shadowy mysteries from the safety of our sofa. But what else is it about detective fiction that appeals to us?

Well, I think it's because we like to challenge ourselves with seemingly impossible puzzles. We enjoy following super-smart detectives as they shine a torch into the shadows and bring light to the darkness. And, of course, we love to see the good guys beat the villains in the end! At the conclusion of a detective tale, a mystery is solved. It's very satisfying for the reader. These type of endings are very neat, with loose ends tied up and the feeling that the world is a safe and fair place after all.

So in many ways, the genre is satisfyingly predictable. As well as a detective with a great mind and slightly odd personality, there's often an assistant who, like us, is puzzled by the detective's methods.

We also expect to meet villains driven by greed and explore some memorable settings, such as tough cities or old houses. There are clues for the detective (and us) to solve, as well as clues that turn out to be misleading but are all part of the fun.

Customers say they like the familiarity of detective fiction, but they also like those stories that end unexpectedly or that feature unusual characters. What type of detective stories do you like? Check out some of the new titles we have in store – there's plenty to choose from!